



## RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ADOLESCENT KNOWLEDGE AND PREMARITAL SEXUAL BEHAVIOR

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### ABSTRACT

*Knowledge of premarital sex is important given to adolescents, both through formal and informal education. Adolescents who get the right information about premarital sex will tend to have positive behavior. On the other hand, adolescents who lack knowledge about premarital sex tend to have negative behavior. Objective : The purpose of this study was to determine the relationship between adolescent knowledge with premarital sex behavior. Method : The research method is observational analytic with a cross sectional approach. The research sample was high school students totaling 142 students. The sampling technique used the Probability Sampling. The research instrument used a questionnaire. Analysis of research is Chi Square test. Results : The results showed that the majority of adolescents had good knowledge of premarital sex as many as 117 people (82.4%). The majority of adolescent behavior is not at risk as many as 133 (93.7%). The results of the analysis obtained a value with a significance of  $p = 0.01 < 0.05$  meaning that there is a relationship between adolescent knowledge with premarital sex behavior. Conclusions : The conclusion is that there is a relationship between adolescent knowledge with premarital sex behavior.*

*Keywords: adolescents; knowledge; premarital sex behavior*

### INTRODUCTION

Adolescence is a period of change or transition from childhood to adulthood, which is accompanied by various changes both physically, psychologically, and socially. Sexual maturity in adolescence causes the emergence of sexual interest and high curiosity about sexuality (Alfiyah, 2018). Number of teenagers is starting to be prepared for adult life, including the sexual aspect. Thus, it takes a wise attitude from parents, educators and society in general and of course from the youth themselves, so that adolescents can pass this transition period safely. This period is also a time for the emergence of sexual impulses in the form of physical and mental changes (Darnoto, 2016). Something that is psychological is raised through feelings, emotions, and the birth of awareness about sexuality is shown through attraction of the opposite sex. This period is also a phase of life that shows a person's aggressive search for identity. The problems faced by many adolescents include premarital sexual relations and reproductive health (Destariyani, 2015).

The lack of knowledge about sexual and reproductive health results in the emergence of inappropriate interpretations, perceptions and attitudes in viewing premarital sexual behavior. And seen from the cultural factors of eastern people who still adhere to moral norms so that premarital sexual behavior is very contrary to eastern norms and customs (Pratama, 2014). Data from the Ministry of Health of Indonesia as a result of the reset that has been carried out by the BKKBN states that the number of adolescents aged 10-19 years in Indonesia is around 43 million (19.61%) of the total population (Hargiyati, 2016). 40% of adolescents aged 15-24 years have practiced premarital sex. Approximately one million young men (5%) and 200

thousand adolescent girls (1%) openly state that they have had sexual intercourse. Data on teenage pregnancy in Indonesia shows that pregnant out of wedlock due to rape is 3.2%, because they both want 12.9% and unexpectedly as much as 45%. Free sex alone reached 22.6%.

Based on data obtained from the Youth Information and Services Center of the Indonesian Family Planning Association, there were 397 teenagers who consulted by telephone, letter and face-to-face (Irmawaty, 2013). Adolescent consultation includes premarital sexual intercourse as many as 98 teenagers (32.13%), premarital pregnancy as many as 85 adolescents (27.86%), abortion as many as 78 adolescents (25.57%), menstrual problems as many as 56 adolescents (18.36%), 28 adolescents (9.18%), 25 adolescents (8.19%), forced to have sexual intercourse (Sexually Transmitted Infections) were 28 (9.18%), 25 adolescents using contraception (8.19%), forced to have sexual intercourse (5.24%). Youth Center, it was found that 25% of teenagers have touched each other (breasts and genitals), and 7.6% have had sexual intercourse. The incidence of sexual behavior in adolescents aged 10-20 years is sodomy (2 cases), teenage rape (8 cases), drugs (3 cases), obscenity (4 cases) and the number of adolescents aged 15-19 in 2005 amounted to 76,904 people (Lestari dkk, 2019).

Knowledge of adolescent premarital sex is knowledge that can help adolescents to face life problems that stem from sexual urges. In this case, premarital sexual knowledge should ideally be given first by parents at home, considering that the parents who know best about the child's condition are the parents themselves (Istiqomah, 2016). But in Indonesia, not all parents are open to their children in discussing sexual issues. In addition, the heterogeneous socio-economic and educational levels in Indonesia mean that there are parents who are able to provide information about sex but more are unable and do not understand the problem. In this case, the actual role of the world of education is very large (Dewi, 2017). Knowledge of premarital sex can affect the individual's behavior towards premarital sex. Adolescents who receive correct information about premarital sex will tend to have positive behavior. On the other hand, adolescents who lack knowledge about premarital sex tend to have negative behavior or attitudes to accept premarital sexual behavior as a sociological reality. The purpose of the study was to determine the relationship between adolescents knowledge and premarital sex behavior

## **METHODS**

This type of research uses an analytical survey. Analytical survey research is a survey or research that tries to explore how and why health phenomena occur. The research design uses Cross Sectional, which is a study to study the dynamics of the correlation between risk factors and effect factors, by approaching, observing or collecting data all at once (point time approach). The sample is the object under study and is considered to represent the entire population. The sample of this study were teenagers in high school as many as 142 people. The sampling technique in this study uses the Probability Sampling technique, that is, each subject in the population has the same opportunity to become the research sample.

This study uses two closed questionnaires, namely questionnaires that are presented in such a way that respondents are asked to choose one answer that suits their characteristics. The first questionnaire to measure the level of knowledge of adolescents about premarital sexual behavior. The second questionnaire to measure adolescent premarital sexual behavior. This questionnaire consists of do and not do questions. The analysis of the research results was carried out in two stages. The first stage, Univariate Analysis, namely the analysis of the data used is descriptive to describe the frequency distribution. The second stage, Bivariate analysis

was carried out in stages with two variables that were thought to be related, with the aim of seeing the relationship between the Independent variable (adolescent knowledge) and the Dependent variable (premarital sex behavior). To prove the existence of a relationship between the two variables using the Chi Square statistical test. The test was carried out using a 95% confidence level with  $\alpha = 0.05$ . The "chi square" test was chosen because this study tested the independent and dependent variables with categorical data. If the  $p\text{-value} < 0.05$ , it means that there is a relationship between the independent variable and the dependent variable.

## RESULTS

Table 1.

| Distribution of Characteristics of Respondents Based on the Information Obtained (n=142) |    |       |
|--|----|-------|
| Information  | f  | %     |
| Mass Media   | 74 | 52,11 |
| Parents  | 31 | 21,83 |
| Friends  | 37 | 26,05 |

Based on table 1, it can be seen that characteristics of respondents based on the information obtained are the majority of information from mass media, as many as 74 people (52,11%).

Table 2.

| Distribution of Adolescent Knowledge Levels about Premarital Sexual Behavior (n=142) |     |      |
|--|-----|------|
| Knowledge Level  | f   | %    |
| Good knowledge   | 117 | 82,4 |
| Enough knowledge   | 23  | 16,2 |
| Lack of knowledge  | 2   | 1,4  |

Based on table 2, it can be seen that the level of knowledge of adolescents about premarital sexual behavior is included in the good category, as many as 117 people (82.4%).

Table 3.

| Distribution of Adolescent Premarital Sex Behavior (n=142) |     |      |
|--|-----|------|
| Premarital Sex Behavior                                    | f   | %    |
| At risk  | 9   | 6,3  |
| No risk  | 133 | 93,7 |

Based on table 3, it can be seen that premarital sex behavior carried out by adolescents is included in the no-risk category as many as 133 people (93.7%).

## DISCUSSION

### Adolescent Knowledge about Premarital Sex Behavior

Based on table 2, the results of the knowledge of adolescents about premarital sex behavior that the majority have good knowledge of 117 respondents (82.4%). Knowledge is the result of knowing from humans, which simply answers the question "what", for example what is water, what is human, what is nature, and so on. It is said, knowledge is the result of "knowing", and this occurs after people have sensed a certain object. One of the factors that influence knowledge is media information. In this study, based on table 2 the characteristics of respondents who have received information from the mass media are 74 respondents (52.11%), parents 31 respondents (21.83%), and friends 37 respondents (26.05%). Information obtained from both formal and non-formal education can have a short-term

impact (immediate impact) resulting in changes or increases in knowledge. A person's knowledge of an object contains two aspects, namely positive aspects and negative aspects. These two aspects will determine a person's attitude, the more positive and objective aspects are known, it will lead to a positive attitude towards certain objects (Notoadmodjo, 2010). The results of this study are in accordance with research that has been carried out that most teenagers have a good level of knowledge, namely 43 adolescents (55%) this is influenced by information media. The results showed that the majority of adolescents received information from 91% of mass media such as the internet, cellphones and television which were increasingly sophisticated, making it easier for teenagers to access information about premarital sex inappropriately (Nurhayati, 2017).

### **Premarital Sex Behavior**

Based on table 3, the majority of adolescent premarital sex behavior is included in the no-risk category as many as 133 people (93.7%). Premarital sexual behavior is any behavior that is driven by sexual desire carried out by two men and women without going through an official marriage process according to law or religion. Knowledge of premarital sex is important to adolescents, both through formal and informal education. This effort needs to be done to prevent things that are not desirable. Considering that so far, teenagers have obtained their "knowledge" of sex from their peers, read pornographic books, watched pornographic films, etc. Therefore, it is necessary to provide information regarding premarital sexual knowledge among adolescents. Information about premarital sex knowledge is obtained from education that affects the learning process, the higher a person's education, the easier it is for that person to receive information. The more information entered, the more knowledge gained about health (Sarwono, 2011).

The results of this study are in accordance with research that has been done that the distribution of respondents based on behavior about free sex that most respondents have good behavior / not risky towards free sex, as many as 247 respondents (90%) and the remaining 27 respondents (10%) are bad or at risk. This is because based on knowledge about free sex, most respondents have good knowledge, as many as 222 respondents (81%) and 52 respondents (19%) have sufficient knowledge (Nasution, 2012).

### **Relationship between Adolescent Knowledge and Premarital Sex Behavior**

Based on table 4, from 142 respondents there are 112 teenagers (78.8%) who have good knowledge with premarital sex behavior that is not at risk. The significance value of  $p=0.01 < 0.05$  means that there is a relationship between adolescent knowledge and premarital sex behavior, the contingency coefficient of 0.244 means low closeness. The low contingency coefficient is influenced by internal and external factors. Internal factors in adolescents are driven by affection and love dominated by feelings of closeness and high passion for their partners, without a clear commitment. While external factors are influenced by peers, mass media/television and relationships in the family, especially parents who provide an understanding of premarital sex behavior (Aritonang, 2015).

Knowledge of adolescent premarital sex is knowledge that can help adolescents to face life problems that stem from sexual urges. In this case, the knowledge of premarital sex should ideally be given first by the parents at home, considering that the parents who know the best about the child's condition are the parents themselves. But in Indonesia, not all parents are open to their children in discussing sexual issues. In this case, the real role of the world of education is very large (Purwaningsih, 2012). Knowledge of premarital sex can affect the individual's behavior towards premarital sex. Adolescents who receive correct information

about premarital sex will tend to have positive behavior. On the other hand, adolescents who lack knowledge about premarital sex tend to have negative behavior or accept the existence of premarital sexual behavior as a sociological reality<sup>[16]</sup>. The results of this study are in accordance with research that has been done that the distribution of attitudes and behavior of adolescents about free sex in terms of the level of knowledge of adolescents that the better the knowledge of adolescents, the better their attitudes about free sex. This can be seen from the distribution of adolescent attitudes about free sex in terms of the level of knowledge of adolescents where at the level of sufficient knowledge there are 32 respondents (61%) being good but there are also 20 respondents (39%) being bad. While at the level of good knowledge there are 215 respondents (97%) who are good and only 7 respondents (3%) are bad about free sex (Sebayang, 2018).

## CONCLUSION

There is a relationship between adolescent knowledge and premarital sex behavior

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